

Washington, DC – U.S. Congressmen Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) and Henry Cuellar (TX-28) announced a \$100,000 grant to San Antonio Youth Centers to help individuals acquire the skills needed to enter and advance in green industries and occupations.

The funds come from the Department of Labor's Green Capacity Building grants program. Grantees like the San Antonio Youth Centers will use the funds to provide education and training in the skills and competencies that are needed in green industries and occupations.

"Green industries are beginning to form a key component of our economic landscape and we have to grow the workforce needed to capitalize on them," said Congressman Rodriguez. "These forward-thinking grants are so important because they provide our young people the skills they need to succeed professionally."

Congressman Cuellar said: "Green jobs are emerging in almost every industry today as businesses become increasingly environmentally aware. Grants like these give our youth the tools they need to secure their place in green industries now and in the future. They'll have an edge in this competitive new market."

Thirty five existing participants will receive continued training and 35 new trainees will be instructed through a newly established Environmental Corps.

San Antonio Youth Centers Chief Executive Director Cynthia Le Monds said the funding will benefit the entire community.

"With potential job growth in the green sector in San Antonio and our recent designation as a Solar City, San Antonio Youth Centers is proud to be part of our nation's green initiative by being awarded this important Green Capacity Building grant," Le Monds said. "Not only does this grant offer us the opportunity to be one of the city's nonprofits leading in this emerging sector, but it also provides a broad range of opportunities for young adults to become trained green collar workers."

The project involves several key partners, including the City of San Antonio, Alamo Colleges, Texas A&M University, CPS Energy, San Antonio Water Systems, Workforce Solutions San Antonio and the San Antonio Independent School District.